

The decision by Sinclair Broadcast Group to mandate the carriage of politically biased programming to favor an incumbent political party and candidate is precisely why media consolidation must be reversed in this country. By ordering individual stations, licensed to serve the needs of their respective local communities, to air programming based on a decision made by their corporate parent in Baltimore represents abuse of power.

Broadcast licenses are limited because of spectrum limitations, so those who are granted one must be required to serve all of the people in their community, and unless a station was licensed in Baltimore, Sinclair's interference in program decisions, including censorship of ABC's Nightline, and this clear and blatant propaganda "documentary" intended to attack a presidential candidate, clearly fails to meet this standard.

An immediate investigation of Sinclair, as well as media consolidation rules is clearly warranted, along with FCC action to review this clear "in kind" political contribution to an administration that has direct influence over broadcast ownership laws in this country.